

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments herein and 1.132 Declaration submitted herewith.

Amendments to the specification

At this time, Applicant has corrected an obvious clerical error on page 53 of the specification. As is clear from the amount of compound (B) at the top of page 44 and the amount of compound (D) at the middle of page 53, it is the compound (B) that is used in a large amount in comparison with amount of compound (D). Thus the ratios at the bottom of page 53 are stated reversed. This conclusion is also supported by the Examples in the present application.

Appropriate correction has been made. Entry is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the claims

Generic claim 1 has been amended to recite the amount of component (D) in accordance with page 53, 6th line of the middle paragraph. Also, claims 9 – 11 have been corrected in accordance with the correction to the specification.

Substance of Interview

The undersigned appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiners Le and Kelly during a personal interview held at the USPTO on March 22, 2007, for discussing this application.

Initially, it is noted that pages 1 – 4 of the Interview Summary document were prepared prior to the interview, apparently by Examiner Le, and presented to the undersigned at the beginning of the interview, and as summarizing the record from the Examiners' viewpoint. The last page of the Interview Summary was prepared at the conclusion of the interview. The

Interview Summary as a whole does summarize the content of the interview. The following points are added to complete the record.

With respect to the carboxylic acid generating agent, the undersigned submitted that an effective amount is understood, while the Examiners countered that when no amount is recited, a very small amount could be read into the claim

With respect to the resins used for comparison, the undersigned pointed out that the resins are based on Uenishi Example 6 and Ishihara Experimental Example 1, and that the Examiners have not pointed to any resin example in either reference considered to be closer to the present invention than those used for comparison.

Prior art rejections

All claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as obvious over Uenishi et al in view of Ishihara et al; under 34 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as obvious over Ishihara et al; and under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Ishihara et al in view of Uenishi et al.

Applicant has discussed each of these rejections in great detail during previous prosecution. The Examiner is in particular requested to again review the "Remarks" set forth in the Response filed October 23, 2006, incorporated herein by reference.

The Examiner has raised objections to the comparative data of two 1.132 declarations submitted prior to this time. In an earnest effort to advance prosecution and for responding to the Examiner's criticism of the comparative data previously submitted, a further 1.132 Declaration is submitted at this time, which incorporates data from the earlier declarations and adding new data

to supplement the earlier data. In addition, at this time, generic claim 1 is amended to recite an amount of the carboxylic acid generator (D). The data of the enclosed declaration confirms the patentability of the full scope of the claims, and also patentability over the prior art, especially with the employment of Resin A in two of the comparative experiments. Thus, Applicant submits that all points raised by the Examiner with regard to the declaration evidence previously of record have been adequately responded to, and the application is now in allowable condition.

Each of the prior art rejections is based singly or in combination on the Ishihara et al reference. Ishihara et al does not anticipate or render obvious Applicant's claims, especially as now amended. Furthermore, Ishihara et al does not provide the teachings alleged for it when used in combination with Uenishi et al and thus the rejections involving Ishihara et al with Uenishi et al also fall short of rendering the claims obvious.

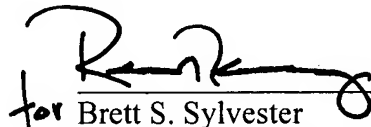
In further detail, Ishihara et al does not teach nor suggest the combination of a resin of the present invention with PAGs as set forth in claim 1. Ishihara does not contain a direct teaching of combining a resin of claim 1 with both of a sulfonic acid generator and a carboxylic acid generator. However, such a teaching is the reason for citation of Ishihara in the last Office Action. There is no direct teaching in the specification or in any example of Ishihara et al to specifically combine the resin of claim 1 with the sulfonic acid generator and the carboxylic acid generator. Clearly, Applicant's claims are novel and unobvious over Ishihara et al alone and Ishihara et al in combination with Uenishi et al.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. If any minor points remain for consideration, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the below-listed phone

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/791,559

number. All fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee are authorized to be charged
to Deposit Account No. 19-4880, and any credits can be applied thereto.

Respectfully submitted,


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